

Press Release



The Use of GECOM's Boat Involved in Region 1 Accident was Unauthorized

22nd April, 2026 GEORGETOWN – The Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) has determined, based on preliminary internal investigations, that its vessel involved in the accident on Sunday, 19th April, 2026, in the Barima River, Region 1, was being used without authorization and was not engaged in any official duties at the time.

GECOM is assisting the Guyana Police Force (GPF) with investigations into the circumstances surrounding the incident. The GECOM-employed Captain who operated the vessel is currently in police custody and is cooperating with the authorities.

Reports indicate that the vessel collided with a sandbank near Morawhanna, resulting in several persons on board sustaining injuries. None of the passengers are employees of or affiliated with GECOM. The injured were rescued by the Guyana Defence Force Coast Guard. The vessel was subsequently destroyed by a fire of unknown origin.

GECOM expresses its sincere appreciation to the Coast Guard for its swift and effective response in ensuring the safety of all passengers and assisted in preventing more serious injury or loss of life. The Commission also extends its best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to those injured.

GECOM will continue to cooperate fully with the Guyana Police Force in its ongoing investigations and will await the outcome of those investigations to determine the appropriate way forward.
